

**Lake County Forest Preserve District
Planning Committee Minutes – December 6, 2021**

On Monday, December 6, 2021, pursuant to Section 7(e) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, the November 12, 2021 Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation, and the Written Determination of the District President attached to the Agenda, the Planning Committee met via Audio and Video conference and at the Lake County Forest Preserve District's General Offices.

1.0 Call to order – Vice Chair Marah Altenberg called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

2.0 Roll Call – Committee Secretary Gragnani called the roll and seven committee members responded: Marah Altenberg, Vice Chair; Dick Barr, Carissa Casbon, Kevin Hunter, Linda Pedersen, Gina Roberts, and John Wasik (in meeting room). Member Diane Hewitt connected after the roll call. Chair Terry Wilke was absent.

Also Present on Zoom:

Angelo Kyle, President
Matt Norton, Corporate Counsel
Jim Anderson
John Tannahill
John Nelson
Mary Kann
Nan Buckardt
Mike Tully
Rebekah Snyder
Steve Neaman
Noelle Kischer-Lepper

Also Present in Meeting Room:

Alex Ty Kovach
Randy Seebach
Ken Jones
Julie Gragnani
Debbie Boness
Lynn Goodell

3.0 Pledge of Allegiance – Member Roberts led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4.0 Addenda to the Agenda – None

5.0 Approve Minutes – Motion by member Hewitt, second by member Casbon to approve the minutes of November 1, 2021. Roll Call vote being had, the motion passed by a vote of: AYES: 8, NAYS: 0.

6.0 Public Comment (for items not on the agenda) – None

7.0 Executive Director Comments – Executive Director Kovach reported on the following and responded to questions:

- Ryerson Education Center update – bidding will occur in January and February 2022;
- Chicago Regional Tree Initiative awarded the District its Public Natural Areas Award for Middlefork Buckthorn Eradication Initiative;
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation approved \$135,000 for the Barrington Greenway Initiative Pollinator Enhancement Program project;
- Ansel Adams: Early Works exhibition at Dunn Museum has been featured in SW Lake Lifestyle magazine;
- Preservation Foundation fall direct mail campaign began in November;
- Preservation Foundation voting members appointed Chuck Bartels and Chris Heier to the Board;

8.0 Correspondence - None

9.0 Unfinished Business - None

10.0 New Business

10.1 Policy direction regarding request from City of Waukegan for annexation of District property at Sedge Meadow Forest Preserve – Using a map, Executive Director Kovach summarized a request from the City of Waukegan to annex 52.5 acres of District property in order to make the Gurnee Truck Stop property contiguous to City property, allowing the annexation of the Gurnee Truck Stop. In exchange the District would receive a donation of 3.2 acres of land contiguous to Sedge Meadow. Staff and legal counsel responded to questions and a general discussion ensued. Waukegan Planning and Zoning Director Kischer-Lepper noted that the District would not be giving up ownership of its property and that the tax revenues would benefit residents. Following comments and discussion it was the consensus of the Committee to reject the annexation request.

10.2 Recommend approval of Resolution awarding Contract for Hydrologic Restoration Design Services at Edward L. Ryerson Conservation Area to Christopher B. Burke Engineering LTD, in the Contract Price of \$88,852.00 – Motion by member Roberts, second by member Hewitt to approve the recommendation. Mr. Kovach summarized the project and Natural Resource Director Jim Anderson responded to questions. Roll call vote being had, the motion to approve passed by a vote of: AYES: 8, NAYS: 0. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

10.3 Recommend approval of Resolution approving Project Partnership Agreement with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Motion by member Wasik, second by member Pedersen to approve the recommendation. Mr. Kovach introduced the recommendation and Natural Resource Director Jim Anderson presented the project and responded to questions. The District's local share is estimated at \$5 million, and LEERD credits for the value of the District's property will result in \$1.2 million remaining, which will be funded from the habitat restoration fund in the Capital Improvement Plan. Following discussion, with a roll call vote being had, the motion to approve passed by a vote of: AYES: 7, NAYS: 0. The recommendation was forwarded to the Finance Committee for approval.

Member Barr lost his remote connection during 10.3 and reestablished connection following the vote.

11.0 Miscellaneous Business – None

12.0 Closed Session – Motion by member Casbon, second by member Pedersen to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing the purchase or lease of real property, and setting a price for sale or lease of property owned by the District. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by a vote of: AYES: 8, NAYS: 0. The committee went into closed session at 1:35 p.m. and returned to open session at 2:20 p.m.

13.0 Potential Action following Closed Session – None

14.0 Adjournment – Vice Chair Altenberg noted that the next meeting is January 3, 2022 and adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

APPROVED:

	<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>		<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>
_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Terry Wilke, Chair			J. Kevin Hunter		
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marah Altenberg, Vice Chair			Linda Pedersen		
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dick Barr			Gina Roberts		
_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carissa Casbon			John Wasik		
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Diane Hewitt					

Secretary's Note: Pursuant to Section 7(e) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, the December 10, 2021 Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation, and Written Determination of the Lake County Forest Preserve District President, the Planning Committee met via audio and video conference on Monday, January 3, 2022. These Minutes were approved by a Roll Call vote at that meeting:

AYES: 6 (Casbon, Hunter, Pedersen, Roberts, Wasik, Wilke)
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 3 (Altenberg -arrived after vote, Barr, Hewitt)



Committee Secretary